

ABSTRACT OF DISCLOSURE

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5 An encoder adds an identifier, being different when the  
coding should be done or not, into a predetermined location in  
an original signal, while a decoder reads out the identifier added  
and detects the condition of coding, so as to decide the execution  
(ON) of the decoding process to be done or not, automatically.  
Further, in each of the encoder and the decoder, there is provided  
a delay output portion, which provides an output treated with only  
a specific delay but not executing the coding/decoding thereon,  
10 separately from a coding process portion or a decoding process  
portion, wherein a selection can be made, at which one of the  
signals from the respective process portions and the delay output  
portion should be outputted, by a setup in an outside operation  
system with use of a selector.